

Calendar No. 234

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**H. CON. RES. 209**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2003

Received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JULY 25 (legislative day, JULY 21), 2003

Reported by Mr. LUGAR, with amendments, amendments to the preamble, and
an amendment to the title[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Commending the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter, a charter of partnership among the United States, Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia.

Whereas the United States has an enduring interest in the independence, territorial integrity, and security of Albania, Croatia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and supports their full integration in the community of democratic Euro-Atlantic states;

Whereas Albania, Croatia, and *The Former Yugoslav Republic of* Macedonia have taken clear and positive steps to advance their integration into Europe by establishing close cooperative relations among themselves and with their

neighbors, as well as their promotion of regional cooperation;

Whereas Albania, Croatia, and *The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* have already contributed to European security and to the peace and security of southeast Europe through the resolution of conflicts in the region and their regional cooperation in the Southeast Europe Defense Ministerial;

Whereas on May 2, 2003, the United States-Adriatic Charter was signed in Tirana, Albania, by Secretary of State Colin Powell, ~~Albanian Foreign Minister Ilir Meta, Croatian Foreign Minister Tonino Picula, and Macedonian Foreign Minister~~ *Albania Foreign Minister Ilir Meta, Croatia Foreign Minister Tonino Picula, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Foreign Minister Ilinka Mitreva*;

Whereas the Adriatic Charter affirms the commitment of Albania, Croatia, and *The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* to the values and principles of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and to joining the Alliance at the earliest possible time;

Whereas Secretary of State Powell stated that the Adriatic Charter “reaffirms our partners’ dedication to work individually, with each other, and with their neighbors to build a region of strong democracies powered by free market economies . . . [i]t underscores the importance we place on their eventual full integration into NATO and other European institutions . . . [a]nd most importantly, the Charter promises to strengthen the ties that bind the peoples of the region to the United States, to one another, and to a common future within the Euro-Atlantic family”; and

Whereas ~~75 Albanian special forces troops were sent to Iraq as part of the coalition forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom, 29 Macedonian special forces troops were sent to Iraq as part of the postwar stabilization force, and Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia~~ *75 special forces troops of Albania were sent to Iraq as part of the coalition forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom, 29 special forces troops of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were sent to Iraq as part of the postwar stabilization force, and Albania, Croatia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* all contributed to the stabilization forces in Afghanistan, as signs of their commitment to promote international freedom and security: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That Congress—

2 (1) strongly supports the United States-Adriatic
3 Charter and commends Albania, Croatia, and *The*
4 *Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* for their
5 continued efforts to become full-fledged members of
6 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
7 and the European Union;

8 (2) urges NATO to invite Albania, Croatia, and
9 *The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* to join
10 NATO as soon as each of these countries respec-
11 tively demonstrates the ability to assume the respon-
12 sibilities of NATO membership through the Member-
13 ship Action Plan;

14 (3) welcomes and supports the aspirations of
15 Albania, Croatia, and *The Former Yugoslav Republic*

1 of Macedonia to join the European Union at the ear-
2 liest opportunity;

3 (4) recognizes that Albania, Croatia, and *The*
4 *Former Yugoslav Republic of* Macedonia are making
5 important strides to bring their economic, military,
6 and political institutions into conformance with the
7 standards of NATO and other Euro-Atlantic institu-
8 tions; and
9 (5) commends Secretary of State Powell for his
10 personal support of the Adriatic Charter.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill commending
the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter, a char-
ter of partnership among the United States, Albania,
Croatia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Mac-
edonia.”.

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